AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

- 1.-14. (Canceled).
- 15. (New) A compound with a general formula (I)

in which

$$R = X \xrightarrow{(CH_2)n} Y \xrightarrow{N} Y' \xrightarrow{N} Y'$$

m is the number 0 or 1;

Z and Z' are an integer ranging from 0 to 2 when they are different or are an integer ranging from 1 to 2 when they are the same;

Y and Y', which can be the same or different, are $(CH_2)_{n1}$; $(CH_2)_{n2}$ -CH[NR^{VII}(CH₂)_{n4}-NHR^I]-(CH₂)_{n3}; CH₂-CH[CH₂-CH₂]₂- or $(CH_2)_{n2}$ -N[(CH₂)_{n4}-NHR^{IV}]-(CH₂)_{n3};

Y" is selected from the group consisting of H; cycloalkyl C3-C7; $(CH_2)_{n5}$ -N[CH_2 - CH_2]₂N- $(CH_2)_{n6}$ NHR^V; $(CH_2)_{n7}$ CH[CH_2 - CH_2]₂NR^V;

X is O, or is a simple bond;

n-n7, which can be the same or different, are an integer ranging from 0 to 5;

R^I, R^{II}, R^{IV}, and R^V, which can be the same or different, are a protective group for the nitrogen to which they are bound; CO₂R^{VI}; CO₂CH₂Ar; CO₂(9-fluorenylmethyl); (CH₂)_{n5}-NHCO₂R^{VI}; CH₂Ar; COAr; (CH₂)_{n5}-NHCO₂CH₂Ar; (CH₂)_{n5}-NHCO₂-(9-fluorenylmethyl).

R^{VI} is a straight or branched (C₁-C₆) alkyl;

R^{VII} is H or R^I-R^V;

Ar is a C_6 - C_{12} aromatic residue, phenyl, optionally substituted with one or more groups selected from: halogen, hydroxy, C_1 - C_5 alkyl, C_1 - C_5 alkoxy, phenyl, cyano, nitro, -NR^{VIII}R^{IX}, where R^{VIII} and R^{IX}, which can be the same or different, are hydrogen, straight or branched (C_1 - C_5) alkyl, or Ar is a heterocyclic group, said heterocyclic group containing at least one heteroatom selected from a nitrogen atom, optionally substituted with a (C_1 - C_5) alkyl group, and/or oxygen and/or sulphur; said heterocycle can be substituted with one or more groups selected from halogen, hydroxy, C_1 - C_5 alkyl, C_1 - C_5 alkoxy, phenyl, cyano, nitro,

-NR^{VIII}R^{IX}, where R^{VIII} and R^{IX}, which can be the same or different, are hydrogen, straight or branched (C₁-C₅) alkyl, the N1-oxides, racemic mixtures, their individual

enantiomers, their individual diastereoisomers, the E and Z forms, their mixtures, and pharmaceutically acceptable salts.

- 16. (New) A compound according to claim 15, in which the protective groups are bulky groups of a lipophilic nature.
- 17. (New) A compound according to claim 15, in which the protective groups are selected from the group consisting of: CO₂R^{VI}; CO₂CH₂Ar; CO₂-(9-fluorenylmethyl); (CH₂)_{n5}-NH CO₂R^{VI}; (CH₂)_{n5}-NHCO₂CH₂Ar; or (CH₂)_{n5}-NHCO₂-(9-fluorenylmethyl).
- 18. (New) A compound according to claim 17, in which the protective groups are selected from the group consisting of tert-butoxycarbonyl; benzyloxycarbonyl; and 9-fluorenylmethyloxycarbonyl.
 - 19. (New) A compound according to claim 15, in which m is 0.
- 20. (New) A compound according to claim 19, selected from the group consisting of: tert-butylester of 20S-(4-{[3-(7-camptothecinylidene-amino)-propyl]-tert-butoxycarbonyl-amino}-butyl)-(3-tert-butoxycarbonylaminopropyl)-carbamic acid;

tert-butylester of 20S-(4-{[3-(7-camptothecinylidene-amino)-propyl]-tertbutoxycarbonyl-amino}-butyl)-carbamic acid;

tert-butylester of 20S-[3-(7-camptothecinylidene-amino)-butyl]-carbamic acid; and 20S-7-[3-(N-tert-butoxycarbonylamino)propoxyimino-methyl]-camptothecin.

- 21. (New) A compound according to claim 15, in which m is 1.
- 22. (New) A compound according to claim 21, selected from the group consisting of:

tert-butylester of 20RS-(4-{[3-(7-homocamptothecinylidene-amino)-propyl]tertbutoxycarbonyl-amino}-butyl)-(3-tert-butoxycarbonylaminopropyl)-carbamic acid;

tert-butylester of 20RS-(4-{[3-(7-homocampto-thecinylidene-amino)-propyl]-tertbutoxycarbonyl-amino}-butyl)-carbamic acid;

tert-butylester of 20RS-[3-(7-homocamptothecinylidene-amino)-butyl]-carbamic acid; and

20R,S-7-[3-(N-tert-butoxycarbonylamino)propoxyimino-methyl]-homocamptothecin.

- 23. (New) A pharmaceutical composition containing at least one compound according to claim 15 as the active ingredient in admixture with at least one pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle and/or excipient.
- 24. (New) A method of inhibiting topoisomerase comprising administering to a subject in need of same an effective amount of a compound of claim 15.
- 25. (New) A method of treating cancer comprising administering to a subject in need of same an effective amount of a compound of claim 15.
- 26. (New) A method of combating parasites comprising administering to a subject in need of same an effective amount of a compound of claim 15.
- 27. (New) A method of treating a virus comprising administering to a subject in need of same an effective amount of a compound of claim 15.